DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE AND ALL ITS VARIOUS KINDRED ARTS AND SCIENCES.

Honor waits, o'er all the earth, The art that calls her harvests forth.—BRYANT.

VOL. I. SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1849. NO. 14.

S. W. COLE, EDITOR. QUINCY HALL, BOSTON. J. NOURSE, PROPRIETOR.

THE PROSPECT FOR FRUIT.

APPLES. — Many of our readers have seen in the American Fruit Book, or in journals which we have conducted, our views as to the bearing year of apples; that in even years we have large crops of apples, if the season be favorable; that we never have a large crop in odd years, let the season be never so auspicious. According to this proposition, founded on experience and observation for more than thirty years, this is a season for a small crop, or only a medial crop, if the season be favorable, and appearances as to the blossoming of the trees and setting of fruit support this position.

PEARS. — According to present appearances, the crop of pears will be very light, particularly of the Bartlett, which is cultivated far more extensively than any other kind, and in some sections more than all other kinds. In many cases, no blossom buds had formed on the pear, and in others, the buds or blossoms have been killed by unfavorable weather. Some cultivators, who have paid great attention to this fruit, find that nearly all their trees have failed. The pear, particularly the fine kinds, is very uncertain. It is often destroyed by cold winters and hot summers; and it frequently suffers from a location in either extreme of wet or drought.

PLUMS. — We have heard but little of these, and our observations have not been extensive. From what we have seen, the crop will be light.

CHERRIES. — Present appearances indicate a large crop.

QUINCES. — These are promising.

PEACHES. — In some cases, there will be a total failure, mostly on low lands, or on flat lands slightly elevated. On well-elevated and high lands, the prospect is very good. The crop will be a mean between these wide extremes — probably about middling. Natural or seedling trees are more prosperous than budded trees.

STRAWBERRIES. — The plants have endured the winter well, and the season is very favorable. We have a good supply of moisture; and as they are beginning to ripen, (June 13,) the early kinds will not be liable to injury from drought, which sometimes cuts off the crop on light lands. A very few raised in this vicinity are in the market, and sell pretty well. From New York there is a very large supply; sales dull and prices low.

CURRANTS and GOOSEBERRIES look well.

STIRRING THE EARTH.

In frequently stirring the earth, there are several and important advantages. It loosens the soil, and makes it permeable to the roots of plants. It finely pulverizes the soil, reducing the sods and clods, and mixes the different kinds or layers of soil turned up by the plough together, and mixes the manure finely with the soil. We have ploughed greensward for immediate sowing with fine seeds, and by manuring, and the frequent use of the harrow and cultivator, we have made it of fine tilth, and well adapted to tender plants, like old, mellow soil.

By stirring the soil often, so as to present new surface to the air, it becomes enriched by elements imbibed from the atmosphere. But if the earth is allowed to rest, a crust is formed at the top, and no improvement of consequence takes place in this way. Hence, in ploughing or cultivating land often, in order to kill witch or couch grass, sorrel, or other noxious plants, the soil becomes improved by the means used to eradicate the weeds with which it is infested; so that the whole labor is not spent merely to destroy the cumberers of the ground. The soil that is turned up in deep ploughing, or that works up moderately in subsoil ploughing, becomes greatly improved on exposure to the atmosphere, and frequent stirring.

By stirring the soil, weeds are destroyed in their tender age, before they become large, to rob the plants of nutriment, or require a great deal of labor to destroy them. If the farmer can keep ahead of his work so as to stir his tillage lands often, just as the weeds have started, he will save a great deal of labor, besides gaining an advantage in having his land in the best condition in other respects for a good crop. Some writer says, in regard to manuring, "Feed your crop, and your crop will feed you;" and it may,

with equal propriety, be said, Protect your crop against the weeds, and your crop will protect you against want.

Frequent stirring the soil is the cheapest and most effectual protection of crops against drought. The soil that is often stirred, in a dry time, is moist almost to the surface, while that which is neglected, or lands in grass or small grains, which do not admit of this operation, are dry to a great depth; and this is one reason why wheat sowed in drills, and cultivated as other crops sowed in the same way, yields more than that which is sowed broadcast. At another time, we may make further remarks on this subject.

Every good cultivator is aware of the important advantages in stirring the soil often, and he practises on this principle with excellent success. Let those who have any doubts on the subject, select a part of a lot, give it extra culture, and mark the result.

BEETS FOR WINTER.

Beets for winter use, and for seed, are better for late sowing. When sowed early, they attain their growth before cold weather, and become dry and hard, and are tending to decay, and are gradually losing in value. But sow beets rather late, so that they will not have attained quite a full growth as vegetation ceases, and they will be young and tender for the table, will keep well, and if set for seed, they will be vigorous and send forth strong shoots.

We sowed beets last season the 7th of June, and they grew too large, and were too old and hard at harvest time; and we shall sow this season about the 15th or 20th: the latter period would be early enough should the fall be as warm as it was last year. In Maine, we used to sow our beets the first week in June. In this way we succeeded far better than when we sowed early in May, for in such cases the crown of the roots would decay in winter, and we could not keep them in good condition for seed or any other purpose.

A partially grown beet, or other root, will keep far better than those that are full grown. We turn warm water on our seed, and keep it in a warm place about two days before sowing, which forwards it about one week, and gives the plants a start of the weeds.

PASTURAGE.

It is said that in North Wiltonshire, famous for its excellent dairy products, the farmers are in the practice of mixing sheep with cows to prevent the pastures from becoming too luxuriant, in the proportion of one sheep to one cow. An English author recommends the mixing of a few sheep and one or two colts, in each pasture for horned cattle. Another writer on English husbandry says, that the following method has long been successfully practised by the Hollanders, and recommends its adoption in his own country. He remarks that when eight cows have been in the pasture so long as entirely to consume all the grass they can graze, and can of course no longer obtain the necessary quantity of food, two horses will find a sufficiency of food for several days. After these begin to fail of procuring an adequate amount daily, to supply their wants, four sheep will be able to live in the enclosure, and procure food for weeks. Sheep, however, should never be permitted to occupy the same pasture with black cattle or horses; they foul and trample more food than they consume; but when it is convenient to take the former from a field or pasture, sheep may be profitably introduced, to consume what the cattle have left.

A PRACTICAL FARMER.

Bald Eagle Farm, *May* 15, 1849.

— *Germantown Telegraph.*

Remarks by Editor N. E. Farmer. — We suppose that the object of the foregoing article is to show the advantage of changing animals in the same way as in a rotation of crops. By a change of crops, one will often take up the elements which the preceding left, and in this way a larger amount of produce may be obtained in a number of years, or in the course of a regular rotation.

One kind of animals may go over a pasture and eat all the food that is acceptable. Then another kind will find a good supply in what their predecessors have neglected. The third race may follow, and do well. A horse will often eat coarse herbage which other animals refuse. We have seen horses eat thistles and burdocks, which some animals never taste.

In New England, cattle, horses, sheep, and sometimes pigs and geese, run in the same pasture; and the fine condition which we have observed in all the animals under such circumstances, would not lead us to think that any injury resulted from such practice, but the advantage in regard to rotation of pasturage was great. This mode of putting different kinds of animals into the pasture together, compared with tillage, may be considered like mixed crops, where the different plants are selecting each its appropriate food at the same time, instead of succeeding each other, as in rotation.

NORFOLK AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

On our 72d page we gave notice of the formation of this society, under the most favorable auspices. In due time the trustees held meetings, and fixed on a list of premiums, appointed a committee of arrangements, and committees or judges on the awards of premiums. The list of premiums is extensive, and includes a great variety of subjects.

The offers are liberal, and in some cases very large. The spirit of enterprise and intelligence that generally pervades this county, the efficiency of the officers of this association, and the liberal funds already raised, are a sure guaranty of success. Although this society is in its infancy, we think, judging from the amount of work laid out, that they will not be inferior to older associations in the extent and utility of their operations.

We have not deemed it necessary to publish the lists of premiums and names of awarding committees of this and other societies, as they are scattered all over the counties by means of local papers before we see them, and such matter is generally of interest only to the county to which it appertains.

PROFIT OF A COW.

There is no doubt that in many cases a mechanic or other person having small means as to land, and time to attend to the business, can keep a cow with profit, and in this way furnish for his children more wholesome food, by having a good supply of milk.

The following calculation on the profits of a cow is made by Mr. Dana Burbank, of Newton, from facts resulting from his experience in Vermont, with prices intended to correspond with those in this vicinity. We think the price of the cow, for one so productive, is too low, or the sum for her annual depreciation is too small. Ten dollars for the use of the cow, risk, and tax, is low enough. Something should be allowed for taking care of the cow, and for selling the milk, even if it is called for, as there is trouble in dealing it out, keeping accounts, &c. Yet some persons are so situated that they can attend to this business conveniently. If a person uses all the milk in his own family, it may be a question, whether it is worth four cents a quart.

MR. BURBANK'S CALCULATION.

1½ tons of hay at $16,	$24,00
Pasturage four months,	10,00
9 bushels meal,	9,00
Driving,	7,00
Cost of cow,	30,00
Total,	$80,00
16 qts. of milk per day, at 4 cents for 120 days,	$76,80
6 qts. of milk per day at 4 cents for 120 days,	28,80
Calf,	6,00
Total,	$111,60
Manure, 2½ cord,	12,50
Cow on hand,	25,00
Total,	$149,10
Cost deducted,	$80,00
Profit,	$69,10

SAVING CLOVER HAY.

As it is difficult to cure clover hay so as to have the large stems well dried, without the leaves and other fine parts becoming so dry as to be wasted, in some measure, we have found it an excellent mode to mix layers of straw, old hay, bean or pea vines, or other good or refuse dry litter, in layers with clover hay, which saves it in fine condition; and the straw, &c., becomes sweetened by the clover, and if it contains nutriment, it will make good fodder. Materials too coarse and poor for fodder may be used to save clover from injury, and then used for bedding, as they can be easily separated in using the hay.

SALTING HAY.

We have often cautioned farmers against salting their hay too profusely. No more salt should be put on hay, than animals would voluntarily consume while eating it if the salt was given to them separately. We are astonished to find, in a valuable agricultural journal, advice to add ten or twenty quarts of salt to a ton of clover hay, which will aid in preserving it, if rather green.

The largest quantity — twenty quarts to the ton — would be about twice the amount given to a horse in a year, at the usual allowance of an ounce per day, or half a pound per week. Four quarts of salt to a ton of hay, is as much as animals commonly consume when they have their own choice. Hay is greatly injured by the use of large quantities of salt to save it, when put into the mow only partially cured; and in some cases, diseases and death among stock have been the consequences of a too liberal use of salt as a preservative.

How would a man like butter with four ounces of salt to the pound, in order to save it without the trouble of working out the buttermilk? We have been particular on this subject, as dealers inform us that much hay brought to this market is injured by over-salting, for the purpose of saving it when housed too green.

PRESERVATION OF WOOD.

Experiments made in England show that soaking wood in lime-water preserves it to a remarkable degree. A house was erected forty years ago, in which Scotch fir was used for timbers. A portion of the timber was soaked in lime-water, and a portion used without such preparation. The former is still sound, while the latter is much eaten by worms, which, as is well known, usually destroy this kind of wood in a few years. The method of saturating the wood is described as follows: "In preparing wood for the purposes of building, saw it into such lengths as the occasion demands; next, plunge the planks or beams into a pond of lime-water. The pond is made thirty or forty feet long, five or six feet deep, sixteen or eighteen feet wide; and the bottom and sides are rendered water-tight. It is then filled with cold water. Before receiving the wood, a quantity of fresh-burned hot lime is thrown into the pond, which is well stirred with the water, to dissolve as much as possible of it. Into this strongly impregnated solution of lime-water, the wood, in the various shapes it has been sawn into, is then thrown. As lime-water absorbs carbonic acid from the atmosphere, the lime previously held dissolved in the water becomes insoluble, and is slowly abstracted from the water, and deposited at the bottom in a solid state, as mild lime or carbonate of lime: hence the necessity of now and then throwing in fresh portions of recently calcined lime, that the water may be resaturated with the strongest solution of this caustic alkaline earth."

The timber remains in the water from two to three weeks. The lime is absorbed by the pores of the wood, and appears to destroy the albuminous and saccharine principles, or so changes them, that the wood no longer affords the food on which worms subsist. The slight petrifaction which the wood thus undergoes, prevents air and moisture from penetrating it, and renders it almost indestructible. It should be thoroughly seasoned before it is used.

It has been eloquently remarked that in the obscurity of the cottage, far from the seduction of rank and affluence, is nursed the virtue which counteracts the decay of human institutions — the courage which defends the national independence — the industry which maintains all classes of the state.

For the New England Farmer.

CATTLE SHOWS.

Mr. Editor: A disposition is manifested in some quarters to disparage the utility of cattle shows. That veteran agricultural editor, Mr. Skinner, has of late years given unequivocal evidence in print that he has little confidence in the good results of these annual exhibitions. Our own State Agricultural Society, by discontinuing their shows and appropriating their whole income to the improvement of stock, give striking proof to the same effect. And in justification of their course, in this respect, they say in their report, which appears in the Agricultural Abstract for the past year, "Our long repeated cattle shows were degenerated into holiday gatherings, and tending, in the language of the late Governor Wright, to become arbitrary experiments, based on no philosophical investigation of cause and effect." It becomes those, therefore, who are interested in getting up these shows, and in offering and awarding premiums for stock, crops, and farm improvements, to inquire and ascertain if cattle shows are indeed productive of little or no benefit; and it becomes the legislature of the commonwealth, especially, to learn if the bounty annually dispensed by the state for the encouragement and support of these exhibitions goes only to the encouragement and support of mere holiday gatherings.

In taking a general view of the subject, one would suppose that it was pretty strong proof, if not conclusive proof, in favor of such shows, that they are every year multiplying throughout the country, increasing in interest, and growing in favor with the whole community. True, the public may be laboring under a delusion or mania on some subjects; but it can hardly be pretended that so great a mistake should be deliberately, and through a long series of years, committed by so many societies, acting independently of one another. The Highland Agricultural Society of Scotland has been in existence for more than half a century, and, besides offering premiums for agricultural essays, and supporting a museum and a veterinary school, continues to offer premiums for live stock, agricultural machinery, and farm improvements; and with what benefits to the agricultural interests of that country, it is too well known to be related.

In a preliminary notice to their Transactions for 1841, in view of the results of their labors, the directors say, "Throughout Europe, and in America, the example of this society has been held forth as one worthy of imitation; and the directors rejoice to say, that within the last three years, a sister society has sprung up, and has been established upon an extensive basis, in England, which has already done much, and will quickly do more, for the general welfare of that country."

Is this ancient society wrong in its judgment? Are its cattle shows, and the numerous agricultural shows in England and in this country, mere holiday gatherings? Surely it will require stronger proof than has yet been adduced that they are so; the presumption of antiquity and of general consent is in their favor, and no array of high authorities should be taken as settling the question against them. The burden of proof rests with those who maintain that cattle shows have ceased to accomplish any good.

Indeed, they should be well assured of the fact, before they sow the seeds of discontent among the farming community. It is well known what pains have been taken by the early founders of agricultural societies to satisfy practical farmers of the utility of cattle shows, and to persuade them to take an active interest in them. The success attending these efforts have been so great, that now the day of cattle shows is truly with farmers the great day of the year. But if the directors of the agricultural societies and the agricultural press turn round and say that they have been all at fault in this matter, cattle shows are only holiday gatherings, they are of no service to the advancement of agriculture, and we must direct our attention to something else, — what are farmers to think, and how are they to decide about it? But there is little danger that the confidence now enjoyed by agricultural societies will be so easily shaken, or that cattle shows will fall into disuse, because some new way has been supposed to be discovered for the advancement of agriculture. If it be discovered, so much the better; but there seems no reason that in following it, or in urging others to follow it, any odium should be cast upon that way which has so generally been adopted and approved.

The experiment now in process by the State society may be of great benefit to the commonwealth, if not directly, perhaps indirectly, by turning public attention to the improvement of our milking stock. But it may also result only in a failure; the breed of cows introduced by them may be inferior in their general character to that which we now possess, and not adapted to our climate and feed. Let us wait and see, before we abandon our cattle shows to find some better way to help along the farmers.

ALLEN W. DODGE.

Hamilton, *June* 2, 1849.

Editorial Remarks. — We think it is too late in the day for any one to decry cattle shows with any prospect of success in putting a stop to these exhibitions. Throughout this country, as well as in other parts of the world, gentlemen of the highest intelligence, and the most skilful in practice, have given their influence in favor of cattle shows. We will allow that they are "holiday gatherings;" but they combine useful instruction with amusement, thus accomplishing a great and important purpose. Shall not the farmer and his boys be allowed one festival in the year in their own peculiar line or profession?

If cattle shows degenerate into scenes of amusement only, it must be owing to neglect or want of good management in the officers of societies. We often see at a show numerous ploughmen and teamsters trying their skill and contending for the prize, or for excellence, and the officers busily engaged at their respective duties; then, perhaps, comes the address often combining important facts with "flights of fancy, and flashes of wit;" and music frequently adds a charm to the scene. Then comes a good dinner. Let those who object to cattle shows call this a mere holiday affair, if they please; but it is what many indulge in at home. Toasts often succeed, combining the useful with the sweet, and short speeches of the same character; and after a little recreation in this way, then comes the labor of making and reading reports.

Now, in this round of duties of labor and recreation, all tending to promote the most useful professions that ever engaged the attention of man to give a charm and impetus to industry in its various pursuits, can any one well acquainted with the subject see any thing that is objectionable?

Occasionally, there may be mismanagement at a cattle show; but if this be brought as an objection, it will weigh equally heavy against every good thing that is under man's administration. But we may have said too much already on a question so clear.

High authorities can never outweigh the still higher authority of truth. We have regarded cattle shows as among the most effectual means of improvement, and we hope that those who oppose these exhibitions will show what evils necessarily attend them, before they attempt to lessen their influence.

For the New England Farmer.

APPLE-TREES—TIME OF BLOSSOMING.

Mr. Editor: Thinking that you may be pleased to lay before your readers the following table, I forward it for insertion in the New England Farmer. It contains the blossoming of apple-trees in Mansfield, Massachusetts for *fifty-two years*, from 1798 to 1849, inclusive.

1798,	May	13.	1824,	May	19.
1799,	"	19.	1825,	"	15.
1800,	"	17.	1826,	"	15.
1801,	"	17.	1827,	"	17.
1802,	"	26.	1828,	"	17.
1803,	"	22.	1829,	"	21.
1804,	"	22.	1830,	"	9.
1805,	"	14.	1831,	"	14.
1806,	"	27.	1832,	"	31.
1807,	"	27.	1833,	"	12.
1808,	"	18.	1834,	"	20.
1809,	"	25.	1835,	"	29.
1810,	"	19.	1836,	"	21.
1811,	"	15.	1837,	"	30.
1812,	June	2.	1838,	"	30.
1813,	May	25.	1839,	"	18.
1814,	"	14.	1840,	"	17.
1815,	"	27.	1841,	"	26.
1816,	"	28.	1842,	"	19.
1817,	"	23.	1843,	"	22.
1818,	"	29.	1844,	"	11.
1819,	"	25.	1845,	"	21.
1820,	"	17.	1846,	"	15.
1821,	"	27.	1847,	"	28.
1822,	"	15.	1848,	"	19.
1823,	"	23.	1849,	"	29.

Observations. — May 9, 1830, and June 2, 1812, are the two extremes. Difference, 24 days; the mean of which is May 21. The mean annual blossoming for the whole fifty-two years, is exactly May 21. The mean of the first 26 years, is May 22, nearly; and of the last 26 years, is May 20.

The observations were taken when the blossoms had fully expanded, generally, (except some late kinds, as the russet, &c.,) and their petals had begun to fall to the ground; (that is, as many petals had fallen as what remained to expand.)

My father, Isaac Stearns, Sen., who was a farmer of Mansfield, took the old Farmer's Almanac, published by Robert B. Thomas, from its commencement, in 1791, till his death, (my father's,) in 1837, and carefully noted in the margin of the Almanacs, the time of the blossoming of apple and other trees, with other events, which are to this day preserved in the family, making four good-sized volumes. We have been careful to continue the practice, so that you may depend upon the accuracy of the *memoranda*.

Most respectfully yours,
ISAAC STEARNS.

Mansfield, *June* 4, 1849.

Editorial Remarks. — The preceding record forms an important document for the farmer, as it presents facts instead of guess-work, which is often substituted for authentic records, which might be kept by every man. Many persons have observed that this is the latest season that they ever knew. By the above record it appears that several seasons have been more backward, and one was four days later.

These records are very valuable to the cultivator, serving, in many cases, as a guide in timing various operations. These and others, embracing various matters, should be kept by every farmer and gardener. They will cost him but little time, and they are often of much importance and utility.

For the New England Farmer.

THE HAY CROP.

WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH THE SURPLUS?

Mr. Editor: As many of our farmers have a large surplus of hay on hand, and as the prospect is now favorable for another large crop, the question naturally arises, with those who have a surplus on hand, and usually fill their barns with one crop, What can be done with the hay the present season?

A kind Providence so orders that before a scarcity there is usually a great plenty. We are informed that before the seven years' famine in Egypt, there were seven years of plenty. I do not predict a famine of hay, (at least the present appearances do not indicate it;) but I do think that it should be preserved, for it is usually the case, that all the surplus hay will be wanted, and will sell for a fair price within a few years.

Now, the question is as to the best way of keeping it without the expense of building new barns, as that is too expensive for one surplus crop.

One person recommends stacking it and covering it with oil cloth; another person recommends covering the stack with a roof; a third person recommends screwing the hay, as it then will occupy but little room, and is more convenient to carry to market.

I should like to have you, or some of your intelligent correspondents, give some information, through your valuable paper, on the subject.

The expense of the oil cloth, and its durability; the best manner of making a roof, and its expense; the expense of screwing; the expense of screwing apparatus; also whether screwing injures the hay, and whether new hay can be screwed in the field without injuring it; also any other information connected with the subject.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Editorial Remarks. — Hay may be secured in stacks, by covering them well, which can be done at a moderate expense. A better way, when there is a convenient chance, is to make a large mow against the barn, and secure it by a good covering of boards or other suitable material. Perhaps one long stack, forming an oblong square, would be preferable to several, as it could be covered with more convenience, and there would be less exposure on the sides.

Hay may be pressed at a moderate expense, and it will then require far less room than loose hay. But to do it cheaply, a person should have a good apparatus, and be well acquainted with the business. In those sections where much hay is pressed, the pressing is usually done by some persons who travel round and make a business of it. The usual price is about seventy-five cents a ton and board, making the whole cost about a dollar a ton.

As to the cost of binding materials, we do not

know. They vary very much in different parts of the country. When hay is sold without any deduction of tare for the withes and bands, these materials generally sell for more than they cost.

A farmer, in Westbrook, Me., who resided one and a half miles from the wharf in Portland, where he delivered his hay, informed us that he would rather deliver his hay, about fifty tons, on the wharf, pressed, than in a loose state. As so much less time was required in loading and unloading, and as larger loads could be hauled, the saving in transporting pressed hay, even that short distance, was sufficient to pay for pressing; and the bandages, sold at the price of hay, paid the cost of those materials.

We do not know whether it is customary to press hay before it has lain a while in the mow, but we think that hay well made might be pressed without injury. As the bundles of hay cannot be laid so close together as to prevent a circulation of the air between, we think that pressed hay, if a little too damp, would be no more liable to injury in the bundle than in a mow of common dimensions, especially where several tons are put into the mow in the course of a few days. On this we give an opinion only, not facts.

A ton of pressed hay will occupy a space of about one hundred and seventy or one hundred and eighty square feet. In a solid mow, the space for a ton of hay has been estimated from four hundred to six hundred square feet. We have never made any experiments on this point, but from observation we think that a solid mow, twenty by twenty-four feet, one foot in depth, — four hundred and eighty square feet, — would make a ton if the hay was heavy. Perhaps five hundred feet would be a fair estimate.

According to our calculation, which we think is nearly correct, pressed hay would occupy only about one third the room of loose hay.

For the New England Farmer.

APPLES.

Mr. Editor: Noticing a communication in one of your back numbers from a gentleman in a neighboring town, with whom I have an acquaintance, respecting apple-trees, their bearing, &c., I thought I would say a few words about some seedling apple-trees which I have grown on the farm since I lived in Fryeburg. They consist of five different kinds. The first is a very large apple, resembling what was called, forty years ago, the *New York Greening*. I have had them that measured eleven and a half inches in circumference. They are in eating from November to February. I have named them *Lovwell Greening*, in honor of Captain Lovwell, who fell on the north-western shore of the pond, in Fryeburg, bearing his name; my farm making the north-eastern shore of the same pond. I have had people from Massachusetts at my house, who, on tasting of the above apples, remarked that they were good enough for any gentleman's table.

My second sort resembles, in color, (though the shape is more of an oblong form,) an apple in Massachusetts, called, many years ago the Pippin, which I have named the *Lovwell Pippin*. They are a fall apple, in eating from October to December. They are a delicious fruit, of a full medial size, highly flavored, and very melting; superior for pies and other culinary purposes.

My third sort is an early apple. It ripens near the time of the old Juneatings, of your state, that I used to know in my younger years. They are not like them in color; they are striped with red, of a small size, of very agreeable flavor, and valuable for their early ripening, when fruit is scarce.

My fourth and fifth are sweetings, and keep well for winter use; one of them more than middling size, the other smaller; very rich and highly flavored, and excellent for winter. I have some grafted fruit; but they are short-lived, unless grafted in the ground, which I consider much better than budded trees. I have other seedlings that are excellent in the fall, but I will not trouble you with a description of them now.

I am your agricultural friend,
JAMES WALKER.

Fryeburg Island, *June* 4, 1849.

Mr. Walker will oblige us by forwarding to our office, for trial, some of his fine apples, at the proper season. — Ed.

HILLING POTATOES.

Several years ago, we made an experiment to ascertain whether hilling potatoes was of any advantage. We left two rows with the ground level: those on each side were hilled in the usual mode. At harvest time, it was found, by careful measurement, that the two rows left level yielded most — how much most, we have forgotten. Since that time, we never "hill up" potatoes, unless the ground is too wet, and we want to turn off the water. An inch or two of earth over the tubers will keep the sun from injuring them, and that is all that is needed. We see some one, who signs "An Old Farmer," gives the result of an experiment of this nature in the N. E. Farmer. He left two rows in the piece unhilled, or only gave them a little earth at the first hoeing. At harvest, he measured the product of the two unhilled rows, as well as that of two rows on each side, and the unhilled rows gave five pecks more (and larger potatoes) than either two of the other rows. He argues (and resonably) that by hilling we deprive the crop of the benefits of moisture. He says potatoes need a mellow soil; but this cannot be well secured by increasing the size of the hill after planting. A correspondent of the London Gardener's Chronicle says, "Moulding up potatoes retards the formation of the tubers." The editor of that publication doubts the conclusion of his correspondent, and says, "Potatoes are stunted and swollen branches proceeding from the sides of the main stems, which alone rise into the air, clothe themselves with leaves, and so convey their food to their underground progeny. * * * Now, the quantity of lateral branches will be in proportion to the quantity of earth through which the stem passes; tubers are lateral branches, and therefore the quantity of tubers will be regulated by the same cause. Moulding up is a contrivance to increase the quantity of earth through which the main stems have to pass, and should, therefore, according to the theory, be a beneficial operation."

Now, we do not understand how it is that "potatoes are stunted and swollen branches," &c. We believe that potatoes proceed from a class of roots or stems entirely different from others, and designed particularly for the production of tubers. In the next place, the editor contends that as "moulding up" increases the number of lateral branches, the quantity of potatoes would also be increased by the same means. Our experience has taught us a somewhat different conclusion. We admit that the large quantity of earth through which the main stem

passes has a tendency to increase the number of lateral branches; but we have *not* found this increase of branches or roots accompanied by a corresponding increase in the weight or yield of potatoes. In other words, we have found earthing or "moulding" up to increase the number of roots, and the number of tubers, but not the yield either in weight or measure, because they were "small potatoes." We have also noticed that those varieties which throw out a great number of lateral branches, produce many tubers in number, but few in the aggregate weight.

The editor speaks of potatoes being produced in the dark, which formed all over the branches, of which he gives an engraving. We have often seen potatoes produced in this way — have found them very numerous, but never knew any but small-sized ones grown in such circumstances. — *Albany Cultivator.*

Remarks by Editor N. E. Farmer. — We have no doubt that the making of high hills around potatoes, as practised by many farmers, is very injurious in dry land. The hill throws the water from the potato plant, and it runs down and settles in the hollows between the hills, below the level of the tubers, or the most of the roots, and it soon soaks into the ground. In some cases of high hilling, we have examined the potato hills, after a powerful rain, which fully saturated lands with an even surface, and the potato hills were dry.

Large crops of potatoes are raised on burned land, where no hill can be made, and in planting it is difficult to get the potato under the scurf, so as to plant it well. A very little light, fine soil, drawn around the potato plant, leaving the earth a little concave, so as to catch the water and conduct it to the roots, will be beneficial; but carefully guard against making hills that will throw off the water.

RECLAIMED LAND.

To Samuel L. Hinckley, Esq., Secretary of the Hampshire, Franklin, and Hampden Agricultural Society.

Sir: I present to said society the following statement of my experiments in "reclaiming wet lands," submitting the same as an application for premium.

My farm comprises a good deal of low, moist land. I had a swale at the foot and between two small hills, at the top and in the middle of which were two cold springs, and some slough holes, that would not freeze in winter. Beside the uselessness of the land for cultivation, I could not cart over it at any season of the year. This swale was from four to eight rods wide, and about forty rods long. I cut a ditch lengthwise through the centre of it, of four feet depth; this I half filled with stones, covered with brakes, and then filled with dirt, making a blind ditch. This swale now bears the very best English grass, having only been harrowed and sprinkled with herdsgrass and clover, and yields quite three tons to the acre. The ground is hard and dry enough, and I can team over it at any time. Some portions of it I have planted to oats, corn, and potatoes, and got good crops. The ditch of forty rods cost me five days' labor in September, at, say seventy-five cents per day: the filling with stone I considered no expense, as I was necessarily carting away stone heaps from my upland, and could put them here with as little trouble as elsewhere. The covering took perhaps two or three days' work more, — the whole expense not exceeding six dollars for reclaiming nearly one and a half acres.

Another experiment. — I have an interval of fifty or sixty acres, nearly in the centre of which was a spot of about two acres, too wet to plough, and covered with little knolls, (probably where trees had been rooted out,) which made the mowing very difficult. In fact, it was scarcely worth mowing, as there was no grass on the knolls. I ploughed off the knolls, and filled the hollows, covering the ground well with the dirt from the knolls, and yet carting off the compost heap quite thirty loads, with which I mixed about six loads of stable manure, making a rich compost bed. I then covered this spot with compost manure, at the rate of fifteen loads to the acre. The second year it yielded a very bountiful crop of clover and herdsgrass — at least six times more than before reclaiming. The expenses attending this experiment were about eight days' labor for the two acres, which was amply repaid by the thirty loads carted to the compost heap. I now get not less than three tons to the acre of this heretofore useless spot.

NATHANIEL EAGER.

Worthington, *December* 30, 1848.

TURNING IN GREEN CROPS.

To Samuel L. Hinckley, Esq., Secretary of the Hampshire, Franklin, and Hampden Agricultural Society.

Sir: I present to said society the following statement in relation to my experiments in "turning in crops, either green or dry, as a manure," submitting the same as an application for a premium, under the first division of "Experiments on Manure."

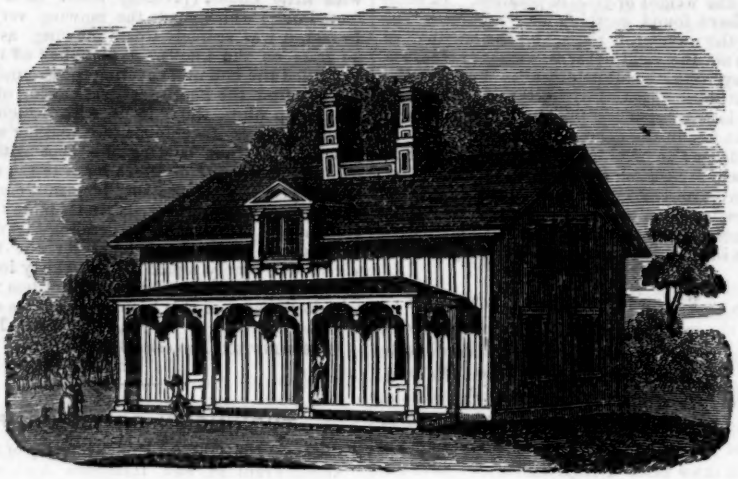
This experiment has occupied several years, and I have devoted no little time and attention to the subject, — I am happy to say, with the most satisfactory results. I had about two and a half acres of meadow, which was worn out entirely; and when I seeded it down, the grass would not take. I commenced by spreading green stable manure over it, at the rate of about twelve loads to the acre, and ploughed it in, rolled it, furrowed it, and planted to corn, adding about eight loads of manure to the acre in the hill, making in all twenty loads to the acre. I got a fair crop of corn, and next year seeded it down to oats, with about eight pounds clover seed to the acre. The crop of oats was fair. The following June, the clover being very thick, and about knee high, I turned it in very carefully, and sowed it to buckwheat, getting an excellent crop. I cut the buckwheat as high as possible, and turned the stubble in, then sowed to oats four successive years, (cradling my oats as high as possible, and immediately turning the stubble in,) and got an increased crop every succeeding year. The manure alone would have run out in two or three years; but turning in the clover and the stubble every year, enriched the land, and increased the crop. This piece, having been seeded down, now bears very heavy grass, quite equal to three tons to the acre.

NATHANIEL EAGER.

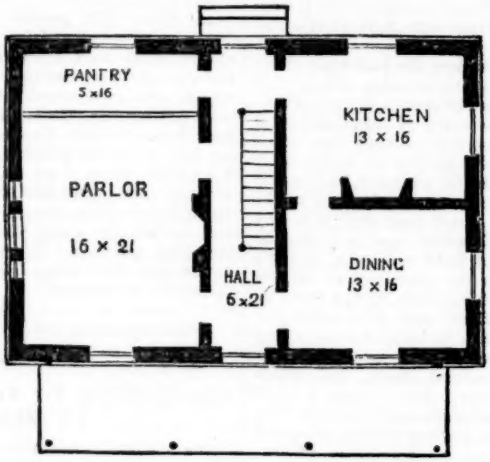
Worthington, *December* 30, 1848.

APPLICATION OF PLASTER AND ASHES TO MEADOWS.

If a meadow be manured only with plaster of Paris, the crops of grass will be at first greatly increased, but will afterwards diminish; for the silicate of potash which the soil contained, is soon exhausted by the rapid growth of the grass, and its further increase is checked. But, if the meadow be strewed from time to time with wood ashes, which contain potash, the grass will thrive as luxuriantly as before. — *Selected.*



DESIGN FOR A COTTAGE.



GROUND PLAN.

COTTAGES.

On the opposite page is the representation of a cottage, on a plan well calculated to afford comfort, with economy in building. It is well adapted to a small family, having on the ground floor a large parlor; a dining-room, of moderate size, which may also be used for a sitting-room; a kitchen, pantry, and hall.

On the second floor there is room for four bedrooms, and a hall through the centre, well lighted, affording convenient access to each room distinctly. There is room in the attic for small sleeping-rooms, or for a store-room. The whole plan combines good taste, ornament, convenience, and economy.

This cottage may be built of any materials the owner prefers as to taste or economy — wood, brick, or stone. Our engraving represents the walls covered with boards vertically, and battened, which, when well done, with clear stuff, well jointed, neatly battened, and painted a suitable color, is beautiful and durable, and in better taste than clapboards painted white. In this mode of covering, the water runs with the grain of the boards, so that the wear of the walls is very little; and, the outer substance being thick, it will last a great while. We would recommend either of the following colors instead of white, (see page 222,) drab, French gray, light slate, fawn, chocolate, or straw color. They are generally cheaper and more substantial, and in much better taste for cottages.

It has been a custom with many farmers to build very large houses, and finish only a part. Such buildings are very expensive, and as to comfort and neatness, they are inferior to small, neat cottages.

FALKIRK TRYST.

The largest cattle market in the kingdom, uniting sheep and cattle, takes place three times a year — on the second Tuesday in August, September, and October, at Falkirk, in Scotland, about equidistant from Edinburgh and Glasgow. This is called the Falkirk Tryst, and is held on an extensive plain, about three or four miles from the town. Here are congregated a vast number of horses, cattle, and sheep, and of buyers and sellers. It was estimated, when I was there, that the number of cattle then on the ground exceeded fifty thousand head, and of sheep seventy thousand; and the banker informed me that the money employed in the negotiation would exceed three hundred thousand pounds, or one million and a half of dollars. The cattle and sheep exhibited at this tryst are almost altogether of the Scotch breeds, and many come from the remote Highlands. They are purchased to be distributed in the neighborhood and the southern provinces for wintering, or for fatting for the winter and spring markets. Besides cattle and sheep, a large number of horses are brought for sale at the same time; as many as three thousand horses are sometimes offered for sale, and the field presents the appearance of a grand military display; indeed, I have seldom seen a sight more imposing. For a week or more before the tryst, the roads leading to Falkirk will be found crowded with successive droves of cattle and sheep, proceeding to this central point; and it is extremely curious, on the field, to see with what skill and care the different parties and herds are kept together by themselves. In this matter, the shepherds are greatly assisted by their dogs, who appear endowed with a sagacity almost human, and almost to know every individual belonging to their charge. They are sure, with an inflexible pertinacity, to follow and bring back a deserter to the flock. Purchasers come in great numbers from various parts of the kingdom. Some cattle are bought to be resold at other and smaller markets. The larger number are bought in order to be fed or fatted on the arable farms at the south. Cattle which have thus been driven from the extreme north are afterwards to be found even in Cornwall, at the Land's End.

The sales in these cases are, of course, for cash. Bankers are always present, or near at hand, to facilitate the transactions. Here, at a distance little less than four hundred miles from London, bankers go down from London, carrying their funds with them, and occupying, during the time of the market, (which continues at least four days,) a temporary stand or office in the field. — *Colman's Tour.*

LIME AND SALT MIXTURE.

In a former article on this subject, we stated that, for the purpose of making the chloride of lime, and carbonate of soda, as the resultants from the admixture of lime and salt, three bushels of shell lime should be slaked with one bushel of salt dissolved in water. Since writing the article above referred to, we have received a letter from a practical friend, stating that he could not use so large a quantity of the solution of salt with the lime, and that he had therefore been compelled to mix part of the salt in an undissolved state with the lime. He suggests, also, that we should further explain, to prevent similar difficulties arising with others.

If the three bushels of shell lime be hot from the kiln, it will take up as much water as is necessary to dissolve one bushel of salt; but if it be long exposed to the action of the atmosphere, it will not readily receive so large a quantity. In such case, we should advise that after the mass has been turned over, new portions of the solution of salt should be added each day, until the necessary quantity is combined. We have often met with the same difficulty, but have continued daily to add the solution of salt until the evaporation from the mass enables it to receive the necessary quantity. The undissolved salt which our friend has added, he will find combined after the mass has been several times turned over; but it will require more time to complete the combination. — *Working Farmer.*

THE TWO SYSTEMS OF FARMING.

Under a low standard of agriculture, the object of the farmer is to collect the natural produce of the soil with the expenditure of as little money or labor as possible. But under a high standard, he does not grudge expense of labor, nor of manure, in order to obtain a proportionate increase of produce; and he studies to obtain this by cultivating crops congenial to the soil, by growing them in such order that its natural powers shall be turned to the best advantage. — *Wisconsin Farmer.*

CURE FOR DISTEMPER IN DOGS.

Take as much turpeth mineral as will lie on a five-penny bit, make it in a pill or two, with butter, and give the dog: it will cause him to vomit, and cure him. This I have done often, and never knew it to fail. — *American Farmer.*

PROPAGATION OF DISEASE IN HORSES.

Mr. Skinner, in his Journal, quotes authorities to show the truth of hereditary diseases among horses as well as among men. He says —

"It having been clearly shown, not only in theory, but in practice, that the diseases and defects of horses are for the most part hereditary, we may be induced to give credit to the assertion, that the Arabians, after having brought their breed of horses to the highest pitch of improvement of which they themselves considered them capable, have preserved their chief perfection, namely, great endurance of fatigue, with highly organized matter, and natural soundness of limb — by restricting the use of stallions until approved of by a public inspector of them. Indeed, in several European states, similar precautions are taken, and stallions are provided by their governments, for the use of farmers and others who breed horses; and care is taken in the selection of them to avoid all such as have proved naturally unsound, or been affected by any disease, the influence of which may be hereditary. No part of veterinary pathology is more interesting than that which relates to the hereditableness of disease; and, as an eminent French writer (Professor Dupuy) on the veterinary art observes, 'That person will render an important service to his country, and to rural economy in general, who may show, by incontestable evidence, that those organic diseases (farcy and glanders) are very often hereditary. I knew a mare whose body, on dissection presented every appearance of glanders: her filly died at the age of four and a half years, of the same tuberculous affection. The other offspring of this mare inherited her particular conformation, and her propensities to bite and kick.' The professor produces three similar instances of inherited disease, all of which, he says, were too evident and well marked to admit the possibility of any serious mistake, and were attested by the professors of the Veterinary School at Alford. Similar observations follow in relation to the diseases of oxen, cows, sheep, and swine, as also of ophthalmy in horses, all of which are transmitted from one generation to another, the effect of hereditary influence. 'These considerations, continues the professor, 'to us are of the greatest moment, since we have it in our power, by coupling and crossing well-known breeds, to lessen the number of animals predisposed to these diseases.' Acting up to such ideas, our line of conduct is marked out. We must banish from our establishments designed to improve the breed, such animals as show any signs of tuberculous disease, or any analogous affection. Above all, no stallion should be allowed to remain in a wet or cold situation, in consequence of the evils likely to result therefrom."

Remarks by Editor N. E. Farmer. — It is a well-established law of nature that like produces like; and any animal or vegetable that is diseased, is liable to transmit that disease to its descendant. This important fact should always be borne in mind, for with a little care to this subject, sound animals and plants may be as easily propagated as defective ones, and every one must acknowledge that there is a vast difference in their value.

WIND-GALLS.

Horses which are subjected to hard service are liable to have what are called *wind-galls* on those parts of the limbs which are most exposed, especially about the hough and upper pastern joints. The affection is an undue enlargement of little bags or sacs which are situated in the parts named. By the straining of the tendons, these sacs become injured, and sometimes take on inflammation, and become hard. Youatt says, "The farriers used to suppose that they contained wind; hence their name *wind-galls*; and hence the practice of opening them, by which dreadful inflammation has often been produced, and many a valuable horse destroyed." As to treatment, the author just referred to directs, "If the tumors are numerous and large, and seem to impede the motion of the limb, they may be attacked first by bandage. The roller should be of flannel, and soft pads on each side of the enlargements, and bound down tightly upon them. The bandage may be wetted with a lotion composed of three parts vinegar to one of spirits of wine. The wind-gall will often diminish or disappear by this treatment, but will too frequently return when the horse is again hardly worked. A blister is a more effectual remedy, and firing still more certain, if the tumors be sufficiently large and annoying to justify our having recourse to measures so severe. In bad cases, the cautery is the only cure, for it will not only effect the immediate absorption of the fluid, and the reduction of the swelling, but, by contracting the skin, will act as a permanent bandage, and therefore prevent the reappearance of the tumor." — *American Farmer.*

CURE FOR BONE SPAVIN.

Take oil of amber, oil of spike, and spirits of turpentine, equal parts, say four ounces; warm them on some warm ashes with no blaze, and apply them as warm as you can to the spavin by pouring it on and rubbing it in well with the ball of your thumb; (first shave the hair off of the spavin;) this must be repeated twice a day for two days, when, if well rubbed, it will become a running sore; wet a sponge with the substance, and apply it twice a day for three days, then stop for three days, and if the spavin has not disappeared, repeat the course three days longer, let the sore heal, wash it with plantain leaf scalded and suds from Castile soap; as soon as the sore is closed, commence rubbing with lard or rank butter, and the spavin will disappear, and the hair will grow in the same color. — *Ibid.*

A CHARACTERISTIC OF THE AGE.

When we look abroad upon the world, and scan its most striking features, and compare them with the features of the days gone by, we cannot fail to perceive that there is one trait at least which eminently characterizes and distinguishes the present from all others that have preceded it, we refer to the spirit of rapidity in locomotion. It was the boast of Cæsar that his legions in one season had conquered in Asia and Europe; but in the same space of time which Cæsar's legions took to come from Rome to Albion's coast, an army could now be transported from the Thames to the Indus, or across the wide Atlantic — that ocean which to the ancients was a vast unknown. History records with pride the feats of swiftness performed by their sure-footed "steeds of metal true;" but what is the speed of the swiftest animal in animated nature, in comparison with the swift-winged messenger that travels along the copper wire of the telegraph, or the disk-footed courser that pants unwearied on his iron-girdled course from lake to ocean? Last year, our country was thrilled by a famous horse on Long Island trotting one hundred miles in ten hours, and fifteen years ago Mr. Osbaldistone, in England, astonished the world by riding two hundred miles in ten hours, by relays of famous racers; but what are all these feats in comparison with the feats of a few iron wheels driven with expanded water? The crippled soldier, whose luckless

limbs were left on some well-fought field, can, by the aid of science, travel as quietly as if sitting at his own fireside, from Albany to Buffalo during the time the swiftest-footed racer could gallop one fourth of the distance. We may boast of "the speed of the Arab steed," and we may admire the eagle in his flight through the air; but neither the race of the one, nor the flight of the other, has so much poetic inspiration in it as the locomotive that fleets faster than the whirlwind, or the steamship that marches proudly against wind and wave over the stormy deep. — *Scientific American.*

WHAT CONSTITUTES A PERFECT HOME?

That which combines the most facilities for enjoyment, with more especial reference to *family* comforts. This is the sole end of having a dwelling, and all we can rationally seek in one. How, then, can *this* end be secured? This inquiry we hope to answer throughout the progress of the volume. Meanwhile, let us consider a few of the grand principles which govern this matter.

To enclose space is the first and main object in building. This is done by *making walls;* and we will call roof, ceiling, floors, doors, etc., walls.

Strength and tightness are also required, the former to resist blasts, and the latter to exclude rains and colds. Light, ventilation, cleanliness, dryness, etc., embrace other objects; but of these as we proceed.

Rooms, convenient, easy of access, etc., should also be secured, and especially such an arrangement of them as shall facilitate "housework." Every housekeeper knows that it requires twice the labor to do a given amount of work in some houses that it does in others. Now, to have the rooms and their accompaniments so constructed as to have every thing handy and convenient, — a place for every thing and every thing in its place, — is indeed a great desideratum. How much fretfulness and ill-temper an unhandy house occasions.

Warmth, easy, cheap, and complete, is also a great desideratum, because so promotive of comfort. What pleasure can be taken in a barn of a house, all open, and the chilling winds perpetually pouring in through a thousand crevices, so that you freeze one side while you roast the other — every thing frozen in winter, or your sleeping-rooms small, low, close, and right under a thin roof, so that you swelter the fore part of an August night, and perhaps catch a death-cold towards morning — and one or another of the family sick most of the time, or else now and then falling into permature graves?

Cheapness is another matter, to some, and especially to the poor, of great importance. Indeed, all should inquire how they can build the best house with the least means. Not that I would stint a house, or sacrifice utility on the altar of cheapness; for, as already stated, I believe in appropriating no inconsiderable a portion of our earnings to improving home; but be the sum thus appropriated greater or smaller, all should strive to make the most of it, that is, to combine as many comforts for their money as possible. However rich a builder may be, he should waste nothing, but, after disbursing every dollar wisely and economically, should give the balance to some poor neighbor. Yet time and money are wisely spent which add to the real solid pleasures of home and family. All of us shamefully neglect this essential point. We carelessly tolerate evils and miseries by the score, for days and years, which a few hours or dollars would remove. We fail to give our domiciles their due proportion of our time and funds. No matter what a house does cost, so that it is good. Better spend our funds for this than for thousands of those things on which we now well nigh waste them. Let others spend their money for balls, fashions, etc., but let me spend mine for a real family homestead; and then let me, year by year, spend no small part of my income in adorning and improving it, till, in the decline of life, I shall have a perfect home for myself and family, surrounded with every comfort, my land rich, my trees annually loaded with every variety of the choicest fruits, and the whole supplied with every thing that can conduce to beauty, utility, and comfort. Let every one procure as good a house as he is able — even better than most think they can afford, though at the sacrifice of many other things — but build as cheap as possible for the value.

Yet there are few things on which men can, and do, literally squander money as foolishly as in building. To build without a plan, or with a crude one, and then to alter this, and patch on that, is as wrong as it is imbecile. See how unwise C——, of Boston, is, in so often altering and remodelling his house. Get all ready before you lay the first stone. Especially mature your plan. Know just what you want, and how you want it, and then how to do it. Leave less to the mechanic, for he may care less about your house than your money, and knowingly omit some good, or commit some error, just to get pay for altering it, and then excuse it by alleging that he knew nothing of how you wanted it done. Or he may propose some costly addition, of little real value, just to get a chance to put money in his pockets. I boss my own buildings, and will show you in this work how to boss yours. Besides, the judgment of carpenters is sometimes inferior to that of common-sense men, because the former are hidebound in the old way, while the views of the latter are oftener allowed to act untrammelled.

O. S. FOWLER.

HORTICULTURE.

Horticulture, said Mr. Speaker Winthrop, on a late occasion, in its most comprehensive sense, is emphatically the fine art of common life. It is eminently a republican fine art. It distributes its productions with equal hand to the rich and poor. Its implements may be wielded by every arm, and its results appreciated by every eye. It decorates the dwelling of the humblest laborer with undoubted originals by the oldest masters, and places within his view fruit such as Van Huysum never painted, and landscapes such as Poussin could only copy.

Farms in the neighborhood of Herrmann, Gasconade county, in this State, have risen very much lately, in consequence of the increased cultivation of the vine. A Mr. Poeschel, possessor of a vineyard not quite an acre in extent, and planted with the Catawba grape in the spring of 1845, made from it this year one thousand gallons of wine. The value of the whole produce was one thousand and seven hundred dollars. — *Miner's Prospect.*

PROTECT YOUR VINES.

We are informed, by a gentleman of this town, says the Lynn News, of an experiment made by him, last year, upon his squash-vines, which proved successful in clearing off the bugs. He strewed on the vines the bran of pepper, which may be obtained at any of the spice mills where pepper is ground. Every one who has a garden will appreciate the value of a remedy so cheap and simple, and give it a trial. We should like to have those who try the experiment give us the result, if they find it successful.

The finer the seed to be sown, the finer should the soil be made which is to receive it.

Domestic Department.

MAKING AND PRESERVING BUTTER. — The following article was communicated to the Farmer's Monthly Visitor, by a lady of the United Society at Canterbury, N. H. The excellent economy of this society in every department of industry, gives an importance to their recommendations.

The pans or other vessels in which the milk is to be set should be made perfectly sweet by scalding previous to putting the milk into them. A room in the basement story, where the air will circulate freely, is preferable to a cellar (when the weather will admit of it) for setting milk. Forty-eight hours is a sufficient length of time to raise cream for making butter to keep through the winter season.

After this cream is taken off, the milk may stand the same length of time, but the cream that rises after the first forty-eight hours will not make butter so palatable as the first which rises, and should be churned separate.

As soon as the cream is taken from the milk, it should be put into a tin pail and set into a kettle of scalding water, taking care to stir the cream often, otherwise it will turn oily at the top; it should remain in the kettle till the cream is scalding hot, being particular to place it in a tub of cold water immediately. Stir it often, till it is nearly or quite cold: if it remains long after hot, it will be injured much. It will be necessary to change the water once or twice before the cream can be perfectly cold. It may then be kept three or four days before churning without injury.

After churning, the buttermilk should be partially worked out: then add one and one half ounces of salt to one pound of butter. It may then be covered tight and stand till the following day; then work it over again, taking great care to work out every particle of buttermilk, which will prevent the butter from growing rancid by age. It may then be formed into cakes, or packed solid in a cask, which should be perfectly sweet and well dried.

The inside should be sprinkled and a little fine salt rubbed thereon. After the cask is filled, dip a cloth in melted butter, and spread it snugly over the top — cover it with fine salt, and fasten up the cask sufficiently tight to keep out the air: it should then be set in a cool place, to remain through the winter.

N. B. A cask made of red oak staves is preferable to any other for preserving the original sweetness of butter.

It will add to the flavor of butter to work in a little sugar at the last working over; say, a table spoonful to four or five pounds of butter.

LAYERING. — Very many lovers of flowers have been discouraged from endeavoring to keep some of the most beautiful and easily managed plants by want of a little knowledge of the art of propagation. They find their plants to flourish and blossom well for a season or two; they are delighted with their fragrance or their beauty, but the time for disappointment and regret comes on apace. Perhaps the seeds do not ripen — most double flowers will not produce seeds at all — probably, even when ripe seeds are obtained and sown, after bestowing much attention and care upon the younglings, and watching anxiously, for months, until they come to maturity and expand into bloom, it is found that very inferior varieties have been produced, having little resemblance to the prized parent plant, and ill-rewarding the labor expended. The poor, inexperienced, and mortified florist next undertakes to raise fresh plants by pipings, cuttings, or slips. Raise new plants he must, if he wishes to keep up his stock; for "all that live must die," and the most robust constitution is no security against an early death. The new attempt will in some instances succeed, and if it does, the original variety is perpetuated, with all its characteristics. But one who does not possess the whole paraphernalia of floriculture, — the stove, the greenhouse, the close frame, the bottom heat, the bell glasses, the mattings and shades, —or one who, possessing some of them, knows not how to use them properly, will fail much oftener than he will succeed.

There is, however, one method of propagation, in which, as respects a great number of species, the most ignorant may with a little care be entirely successful.

It is equally effective for Sweet Williams, Chinese pinks, and indeed for the whole genus *dianthus* and innumerable others.

The branch of which the layer is to be made, should be prepared by cutting off the leaves from that part which is to be covered with earth. If the plant is of woody texture, a ring of the bark about one eighth of an inch broad, should be cut off also. If the branch belongs to a jointed plant, like the carnation, &c., a sharp penknife should be passed through its centre, so as to split it at the joint, and for about a half inch above and below it. This ringing or incision is useful, as it partially interrupts the flow of the sap, arresting a portion of it at the point from which the young roots are to spring. A small portion of the earth should then be removed, and the prepared branch should be secured in the cavity by a hooked peg. It should then be covered with light, rich mould, not that removed, from one to two inches deep. The depth should vary according to the character of the plant, the more succulent requiring the shallower covering, and the more woody and dry the deeper. When the layers have struck root, they should be severed from the parent plant, and potted, or planted in the garden by themselves. Most of our frequent flowering garden roses, grape-vines, gooseberry bushes, snowballs, honeysuckles, and shrubbery in general, may, by this means, be readily and easily propagated to almost any extent; and if the layering be done soon after the full blooming of the plant is nearly over, the effect upon the stock is beneficial rather than injurious. — *Sartain's Magazine.*

Boys' Department.

NO WEEDS. — Boys who have a little spot of land to cultivate as their own, should be careful and allow no weeds to grow on it. In most cases, boys have small farms, and they should be careful to keep them well cultivated and in the neatest condition. "He that is faithful over a few things shall be made lord over many."

THE BOY THAT SMOKES. — What shall we say of the boy that smokes? Shall we pronounce any judgment upon him? Shall we say that he is acquiring an evil habit? that he is becoming a slave to a master, who, by and by, will be very cruel to him; that he is on the high road to rowdyism; that he is beginning to be profligate with his money, &c.? O that this were the worst! What say the druggists, who know the stimulating effects of tobacco? One and all, that it often proves the first step to drunkenness. No young man, who uses tobacco, in any shape whatever, is or can be safe. He is apt to be thirsty, and water never satisfies. Tobacco-smoking

feeds the love of strong drinks in two ways — first, by creating a morbid thirst; and second, by impairing the appetite for food, and indirectly encouraging him who uses it to seek for that strength which food should give him, in the use of extra stimulus. Let the friends of temperance — temperance men above all the rest — beware of tobacco in every form.' Take care, then, temperance boys, how you get that filthy thing, a cigar, in your mouths. Abhor and detest it, for it is poison and death." — *Well-Spring.*

Health.

How to preserve Health. — "Keep the bowels open, the feet warm, the head cool, and a fig for the physicians."

"Eat in measure, and defy the doctor."

Rise early in the morning, wash the whole body, that you may be clean, vigorous, elastic, and joyous. Take a draught of pure water, and then walk, ride, exercise, or, better, labor in the open air, at least for a short time. Afterwards go to a plain meal of brown bread, milk, potatoes, and the like healthful articles, such as a king should be thankful to partake of. Do not eat in a hurry; better to take water, and omit the meal altogether, than eat in haste. "Haste makes waste," here as elsewhere; waste, not only of the food, but of that which is far more important, of that which is better than riches and fine gold — *health.*

After your meal, go not too rapidly to work — neither with the head nor the hand. It is better not to read immediately after eating. The literary or sedentary man should not go immediately to his books. Moderate exercise (not in the hot sun) it would be well to practise. Moderate exercise (physical) promotes digestion: this is the rule. And in all cases remember the good old maxim, "*Eat to live, not live to eat.*"

If you would "keep the bowels open, the feet warm, and the head cool," avoid superfine articles of every kind; avoid all rich, and concentrated, and stimulating articles; avoid especially tea and coffee, which are always astringent, binding, to the mucous membrane internally, and exert also a pernicious effect on the nervous system. Especially avoid *tobacco*, the most hateful of all drugs. Avoid laziness above all things. Let *temperance* and *moderation* be the watchwords in all you do. Thus may you insure that best of earthly blessings — *firm and enduring health.* — *Water-Cure Journal.*

Mechanics' Department, Arts, &c.

Elasticity, or Spring Temper of Metals. — The properties of metals are but just beginning to be known. This remark may startle some of the old workers in metals who conceive that they know all about them. They may indeed know all that, in the present state of knowledge, in regard to them, can be known. But with all their knowledge they will confess that there are many things in reference to the natures and properties of the several metals, whether in their simple states, or when alloyed with other metals, which they cannot explain, but would like to know. An expert worker of iron once said to us, in reference to some operations in working it in various conditions, "There is a great mystery, sir, in iron;" and then went on to state several things, the causes of which he could not explain. "Your 'mystery,' we answered, is only another word for ignorance. Instead of there being a mystery in iron, there is ignorance in yourself. There are causes for all the appearances and changes you speak of under the operations you mention; but being ignorant of them, you consider them mysteries. They will one day be discovered, and then the mysteries will vanish."

There are many things yet to be discovered, not only in the natures of the several simple metals, but also in their state of combination with other metals. One characteristic, not much understood, is the nature and cause of elasticity of metals. Some metals can be made highly elastic by being tempered at a given degree of heat. Others, again, which, in a separate state, are perfectly non-elastic, when alloyed together become highly elastic: thus, fifteen parts of pure gold and one part of platinum, the platinum added when the gold is perfectly melted, combine intimately, and become remarkably elastic, although before their union they exhibit nothing of the kind.

We perceive that the latest emission of those neat mantel clocks so abundantly made in Connecticut, instead of weights, have a spiral spring, like the main-spring of a watch, which moves the wheels, a week or more, without being wound oftener than that. These springs are made of some sort of alloy resembling brass. No doubt many other combinations of metals might be made that would exhibit similar properties, and which will form a cheap and ready mode of obtaining springs.

The combinations of the several metals might be made almost *ad infinitum*, and this branch of metallurgy affords a fine field to those who have the means and the time and desire to pursue it. Indeed, as we said in the beginning, the whole science, art, and practice of metallurgy is in its infancy, although metals have been wrought ever since the days of Tubal Cain. The different societies for encouraging scientific researches, and even government itself, ought to promote, in every prudent way, these researches. — *Maine Farmer.*

RURAL LIFE.

This primeval employment of man is the most healthful of all occupations; healthful for the body, the mind, and the soul. What other pursuit by which men obtain honest bread affords such vigorous training for the physical powers, such various and extensive ranges of mental exercises?

And where may the moral nature of man be preserved unsullied from vice, and grow, and expand more, than amid rural scenes and beneath the purest air of heaven?

The farmer's life is not scratch, scratch, with the pen — rap, rap, with the hammer — nor an everlasting unpacking and repacking of the product of another's labor. He walks forth under the open sky, his broad acres spread out beneath his feet; the blue concave, sunlit or starlit, or shrouded in clouds, is still above him. Health claims him as her favorite child, and the glorious sun loves to kiss a cheek that is not ashamed to wear the ruddy imprint of such affection. Nature's own inimitable music of babbling brooks, birds, breeze, or rustling foliage, enters his ear on its glad mission to his heart. He listens to instructive voices, continually speaking from the universe around him. His eye gathers truth from unwritten pages of wisdom, every where open before him. Each day, each month, season after season, year after year, these teachings are given to him, infinite in variety, and endless in extent.

When, toward the close of a sultry day, the summer's blessing comes pouring down, and as, in the beautiful poetry of the sacred volume, "the trees of the field clap their hands," and "the valleys, covered with corn, shout for joy," the farmer, retiring from his labors to the friendly shelter of his cottage roof,

improves his leisure hours with the treasures of written wisdom. So, too, while his fields are sleeping beneath frost and snow, what profession affords more available opportunities for self-culture? Where was the lyric poetry composed that makes Scotland prouder of her Burns than of all her ancient race of warlike kings? Was it not between the handles of the Mossgeil plough?

Of all the employments that busy men here in this present state of existence, the cultivation of the earth is distinguished as affording the best opportunities for an extended range of mental discipline, for advancing in true refinement, for social, rural, and religious improvement!

And now, last of all, agriculture shall put forth her highest claim. Of all men, the farmer alone walks in the path where God himself first took the created image by the hand and led the way "to dress and to keep" his garden — the earth! Confiding in God, the husbandman ploughs his fruitful fields, while the birds of spring are singing praises around him. Buoyant with hope, he scatters the seed upon the ground, and gratefully receives the early and the latter rain, coming down from heaven to give the increase. And never did rational man yet apply the sickle to the golden grain without some vague idea of gratitude to God, the Giver of harvests!

Indeed, the husbandman's whole life, rightly viewed, is a "walking with God." And though thousands may not often think of this, and but a few, even in any small degree, appreciate it as they ought, nevertheless the assertion claims to be true.

GEORGE JAQUES.

Worcester, Mass., *Dec.* 6, 1848.

Downing's Horticulturist.

ORNAMENTAL TREES.

One of the most popular lady writers, who, judging from what she has written, has lived among plain farmers in the western country, has said that most settlers in a new country consider a tree as their natural enemy. This is true, we confess, to some extent. The earlier settlers, in clearing their fields, generally slay every thing before them; for if a tree should occasionally be left for shade or ornament, it would be saved with difficulty during the scathing fires that follow afterwards. But when the farmer removes his old log-house to give place for his new mansion, neatly painted and adorned with bright green shutters, then the dock thistle, the briers, and brush-heaps should be routed from his door-yard, and some kind of ornamental shrubbery planted instead. Every portion of our country has some such suitable trees indigenous to the soil. The maple and locust are very hardy trees, and every where obtained in our latitude. The lilac is pretty, and dozens of other kinds procured with little trouble. By way of variety, and to enliven the scene a little, a few evergreens should be interspersed. The balsam fir is one of the most beautiful of this class. Evergreens, if transplanted, are not apt to live unless extra care is taken. The surest way is to dig them with as much earth adhering to the roots as possible, and place them immediately in an old tub, half-barrel, or something of the kind, then filling it up with the same earth from which the shrub was taken, and thus removed home and placed tub and all in the holes prepared for them. Afterwards the tub or box containing them can be knocked to pieces, that the roots may spread. Don't forget to water the plants occasionally if the weather should be dry. The trees should be placed on the outer margin of shrubberies for their beauty and protection. E. G.

Wakeman, Ohio, 1849.

— Philadelphia Dollar Newspaper.

SOILING.

Soiling, in this country, has been adopted only to a limited extent. The "Zoarites," however, a religious sect of Germans, located on the banks of the Muskingum River, in the state of Ohio, keep their cows almost constantly in their stalls, feeding them on the offal of the dairy, roots, apples, and hay. They are said to observe great care and circumspection in the treatment of their animals, and by them are abundantly remunerated for their extra care and pains. Their stalls are thoroughly washed daily, and the water used for this purpose is carefully collected in reservoirs constructed expressly for the purpose, and applied systematically, in the form of liquid manure, to their hothouse and garden products.

In a late communication to the British Board of Agriculture, it is stated that thirty cows, one bull, four calves, and five horses, were fed through the summer from fifteen acres of clover, sown the preceding year. The labor of two men and two women was sufficient to tend them, and the net produce of the season, in butter, from June to October, was nineteen pounds and ten shillings, nearly ninety dollars, from each cow. In this country, where, from the greater value of labor, the expense of tending would be considerably increased, the profits of soiling would obviously be less; but there are nevertheless situations and circumstances of frequent occurrence, which would render the adoption of this system, on a limited scale, an enterprise that would be attended with the most gratifying results. Sowing corn — the common Indian, or the southern horse-tooth variety — broadcast, and feeding the crop, green, to stock, especially to milch cows, during a part of the season, is a practice now becoming quite common. Animals in milk, so fed, will, if properly attended in other respects, greatly increase the quantity of their milk, while at the same time there is also effected, as a natural consequence, a corresponding improvement in its quality. This subject is, I think, eminently deserving the attention of farmers generally.

AGRICOLA.

Lower Dublin, *May* 30, 1849.

— Germantown Telegraph.

THE COLOR OF HOUSES.

The practice of painting white in all cases has been rapidly giving way for some years; and a great variety of colors are now used instead. Mr. Ranlett in his Architect has some remarks on the subject which are of value.

"The interior of a house should always be painted of a warm, neutral tint. Pure white is too cold and cheerless for a dwelling-room, and is, moreover, so liable to stains, that its appearance of purity and cleanliness, which is a great recommendation with neat housekeepers, very soon wears off.

"The purity of our atmosphere, and the absence of coal smoke, admit of houses being painted a pure white; and where lead and oil are alone used in the open air, the color will grow whiter from exposure; but in the interior of a house it will become a dingy yellow from being deprived of light and air. White lead improves by age, and should not be used for wood work unless at least a year old; linseed oil also becomes purer and better from age, and should be at least two years manufactured before used. Much harm results from the employment of incompetent workmen in the painting of houses, as from their inexperience in mixing paints, and their inability to distinguish between good and bad materials, the employer often throws away his money, and defaces the appearance of his house in the attempt to beautify it by a coat of paint.

"In painting a house any light color, particular care should be taken to *kill* the knots in pine wood, as it is technically termed, or the effects of the first painting will be greatly marred. The best method of destroying the turpentine contained in pine knots is by spreading upon them freshly-slaked lime, which will effectually burn it out. After this has been done the knots must be covered with a sizing, composed of red and white lead and glue.

"In painting the outside of a house, there should be no turpentine mixed with the paint, excepting in the case of white paint, and then only in the last coat: not more than one part turpentine to four parts oil should be used, as oil has a tendency to discolor white.

"White lead forms the basis of all pigments for house paintings excepting black, which is generally composed of lampblack; but a new mineral substance has recently been discovered in New Jersey, which forms a beautiful jet black, and resists the action of the atmosphere and water better than any paint yet made. It has already been extensively used on ships, and will probably entirely displace every other kind of black paint before long. Not much black paint is ever used on houses, although it is most extensively employed for fences and iron work; and as it is important to use a material that will resist the action of the atmosphere in ornamental iron work, which is so soon destroyed by rust, the discovery of this new mineral pigment is a matter of importance to builders. We have seen some specimens of this new paint, which were remarkable for brilliancy of color and hardness of surface. A steam mill has been erected for manufacturing this article, and we shall be able to give more definite information respecting it before we conclude our remarks upon this subject.

"The colors and tints proper for house painting, such as browns, drabs, yellows, pea-green, grays, and imitations of stone color, are made by mixing, with white lead and linseed oil, the following colors, which should first be finely ground in oil: —

Drabs — Chrome yellow, lampblack, and red; or Venetian red and burnt umber, with white.

Brown Stone color — Spanish brown, chrome yellow, and lampblack, with white.

Gray Stone — Lampblack and Venetian red, with white.

French Gray — Indian red, Chinese blue, and ivory black, with white.

Sage color — Raw umber, Prussian blue, and Venetian red, with white.

Slate color — Black and Venetian red, with white.

Dark Blue — Prussian blue with white.

Sky Blue — Ultramarine or Prussian blue, with white.

Violet — Vermilion, blue, and black, with white.

Lilac — Drop black, ultramarine, and crimson lake, or Indian red, with white.

Peach Blossom — Carmine and ultramarine, with white.

Rose color — Crimson lake and vermilion, with white.

Salmon color — Chrome yellow and Indian red or burnt sienna, with white.

Straw color — Yellow ochre and orange chrome, with white.

Buff color — Venetian red and yellow ochre, with white.

Pearl White — Ultramarine, crimson lake, and ivory black, with white.

French White — Indian red, ivory black, Chinese blue, or ultramarine, with white.

Fawn color — Yellow ochre and Spanish brown; or Venetian red, blue and umber, with white.

Pea Green — Yellow and blue; or chrome green, with white.

Green — Prussian blue and chrome yellow.

Olive Green — Chrome yellow and black; or raw umber and black.

Bronze Green — Black and green; or chrome yellow and black.

Orange — Chrome yellow and vermilion.

Chocolate — Spanish brown and black; or Venetian red and black.

"There are various other modes of producing the above shades, but simplicity and economy are the objects we have in view. The gradation of shades produced by a varied portion of these colors is almost indefinite.

"Small quantities of the coloring matter should first be added to the lead, and continued till the right shade is procured. Enough should be mixed at one time to cover all the woodwork required with one coat." — *Prairie Farmer.*

PUT IN THE ROOTS.

We have frequently spoken of late respecting the unaccountable neglect of the root culture among the farmers of Maine. There are a few, and those among our best and most prosperous ones, that have not given them up, but rather have increased their culture of carrots and ruta-bagas since the decrease of potatoes. Would it not be well for all to return to it again? A farmer from Springfield, Mass., gives us an account of the mode he adopted in carrot culture, as follows: He ploughed and manured his land early, and let it be until late, so that all the weeds should spring up that were near the surface. He then soaked his carrot seed until it began to sprout, The land was then cultivated and harrowed over — all the weeds of course destroyed, and the surface made smooth. The carrot seed was then rolled in plaster, and made dry, and then sowed by a seed-sower.

In this way, the carrots soon came up, and, getting the start of the weeds, were easily weeded and taken care of during the rest of the season.

We have always been an advocate for the root culture. They are so grateful to cattle during our long winters, that it is an object to have a supply for them. They conduce to the health of the animals, and they should have them, even if you should have an abundance of corn and oil-cake to give them besides. Some farmers say to us that they find it more profitable to feed corn to their cattle, as it is more nutritive and fattening. We grant it. But at the same time, your corn itself could be rendered still more serviceable to your cattle, if they had a fair supply of heavy food in the shape of carrots, sugar beets, and ruta-bagas, to fill them out and give them what physiologists call the "stimulus of distention."

Some of our acquaintances are trying parsnips for a field crop. The following scrap in regard to carrots we find in Professor Mapes's Working Farmer: "Vauquelin and Braconnet discovered that carrots contained large quantities of pectic acid, and that this acid had the power of gelatinizing water in which sugar or its ultimates were held in solution. It is well known that food in a gelatinized form is more easily digested by all animals than when not so gelatinized; and probably to this fact may be attributed, in part, the great superiority of carrots as food for cattle of all kinds.

No winter food will enable cows to give so good milk and yield so good butter as carrots. For horses they are nearly equal to the same bulk of oats; and for working cattle, carrots may be occasionally substituted for ground feed when mixed with cut hay.

Grated carrot worked with winter-made butter, after it leaves the churn, gives it the flavor of good summer butter. — *Maine Farmer.*

NOTICES OF PUBLICATIONS.

HOVEY'S MAGAZINE OF HORTICULTURE. — The June number contains very interesting articles. It contains a correspondence, communicated by General Dearborn, embracing important facts in relation to the culture of tropical fruits in Florida. When a spirit of improvement shall have pervaded the south as it does other sections of the country, we shall, in our vast country, produce, in perfection, the best fruits of almost every region of the world. We commend this Magazine to those who would have an able work on the general subjects of horticulture and botany.

THE PLOUGH, THE LOOM, AND THE ANVIL, by the veteran editor, J. S. Skinner, has just concluded its first volume. It is a very able and interesting work.

From B. P. Johnson, Esq., we have received several valuable works from the Transactions of the New York State Agricultural Society.

THE AMERICAN FARMER will commence a new volume, July 1st. It is among the most practical and valuable journals. Baltimore, published by A. Sands, at $1 per year. Monthly, 32 pp. 8vo.

☞ The semiannual exhibition of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, announced on our 208th page, is postponed till Monday, the 25th instant, to conform to the season of roses.

A NORTH-WESTERN HORTICULTURAL CONVENTION.

A horticultural convention, to be held at Chicago this fall, is proposed by Edson Harkness, of Illinois, in the May Prairie Farmer, and seconded by others.

Such an organization, if taken hold of with spirit by our numerous nursery-men and fruit-growers, could not fail to be exceedingly useful and interesting. Something of the kind we must have soon, or be quite behind our sister states; and not only so, but in the mean time we must grope our way, "solitary and alone," through the unexplored recesses of western pomology, with nothing but the light of our individual wits, and the scarce-risen, distant eastern suns to guide us! We had much better, it seems to me, commence now in the infancy of fruit culture, and so save the innumerable and sometimes almost ineradicable errors that creep in where a correct standard is not early reared. What say our Wisconsin fruit-growers? — *Wisconsin Farmer.*

COWS WORKED AS OXEN.

A correspondent of the Southern Cultivator says, "I have worked cows in harness, not under the yoke, without detriment in any respect — on the contrary their calves were superior to the rest of the stock, — due of course to the extra feed and attention the cows received. I should like to see this practice extended — for many of the poorer class have no other animal power to aid them in their farming operations." — *Valley Farmer.*

Rochester papers say that the wheat in that region is now looking finely, and that there is a prospect of an excellent yield.

A WORLD OF LOVE AT HOME.

BY J. J. REYNOLDS.

The earth hath treasures fair and bright,
  Deep buried in her caves,
And ocean hideth many a gem
  With his blue curling waves.
Yet not within her bosom dark,
  Or 'neath the dashing foam,
Lies there a treasure equalling
  A world of love at home.

True sterling happiness and joy
  Are not with gold allied;
Nor can it yield a pleasure like
  A merry fireside.
I envy not the man who dwells
  In stately hall or dome,
If 'mid his splendor he hath not
  A world of love at home.

The friends whom time hath proved sincere,
  'Tis these alone can bring
A sure relief to hearts that droop
  'Neath sorrow's heavy wing.
Though care and trouble may be mine,
  As down life's path I roam,
I'll heed them not while still I have
  A world of love at home.

THE OLIO.

"What are you going to give me for a Christmas present?" remarked a gay damsel to us the other day. We meekly replied, that we had nothing to offer but our humble self.

"The smallest favors gratefully received," was the merry response.

"Come, and away to the meadows!"

"Old boys have their playthings as well as young ones; the difference is only in the price."

Sin is like a bee, with honey in its mouth, but a sting in its tail.

Cato said, "The best way to keep good acts in memory, is to refresh them with new."

A bad workman quarrels with his tools.

Men are frequently like tea — the real strength and goodness is not properly drawn out of them until they have been a short time in hot water.

"I am afraid that I shall come to want," said an old lady to a young gentleman. "I have come to want already," was the reply. "I want your daughter?"

"Mankind are very odd creatures. One half censure what they practise, and the other half practise what they censure. The rest always say and do as they ought." — *Poor Richard.*

TERMS. — THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER is published every other Saturday, making a neat and handsome volume, at the close of the year, of 416 pages, at $1 a year, or five copies for $4, payable in advance. It may be neatly bound at 18¾ cents, or elegantly bound in muslin, embossed and gilt, at 25 cents a volume. As it is stereotyped, back numbers can be furnished to new subscribers.

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